



The Carillon

February 2019 Volume 25 Issue 2

Discover God's Love

Inspire Hope • Grow in Faith • Serve With Joy

First Church: An inclusive, deeply relational community inviting all people to experience God's presence today.

Message from Melanie ...

"We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed." 2 Corinthians 4:8-9

From February 23-26 a special session of our United Methodist governing body will meet in St. Louis, Missouri. The purpose is to finally decide where we go as a denomination regarding the issue of the full inclusion of LGBTQ persons in the life of the church.

This is the endgame in a conflict that has spanned decades and caused too many people to walk away from the United Methodist Church altogether.

There are several proposals before the General Conference, and the option most widely supported by both moderates and progressives is the One Church Plan. It has been endorsed by our Council of Bishops and denominational leaders. It would remove restrictive language from our Book of Discipline, and allow churches and Conferences to decide for themselves the approach they would take. But supporters of the far more restrictive and punitive Traditionalist Plan are unwilling to extend full inclusion and support to members of the LGBTQ community. They justify this with a selective Biblical literalism, taking some passages quite literally and others not so much.

***All means ALL, no exceptions.
Every person is sacred and
loved in the sight of God.***

It is entirely possible that the church will split after this meeting, and our mission in the world will suffer. Ours is the only church in the top 5 denominations to affirm women's ordination, and to have an organizational structure which allows for a wealth of resources that independent churches lack. Our Committee on Relief is a missional jewel that other denominations admire and emulate. Our theology is practical, sensible, and inclusive. In approaching God, we combine head and heart, social action and personal piety. United Methodism is a shining example of the best of what Mainline Protestantism has to offer. We stand for unity but not uniformity, believing we do not need to think alike in order to love God and neighbor well. The impasse over homosexuality is incapacitating our broader mission, and makes the UMC look like a lumbering dinosaur, out of touch with reality. All means ALL, no exceptions. Every person is sacred and loved in the sight of God.

John Wesley once wrote: "It is only when our love grows cold that we can think of separating from our brethren. The pretenses for separation may be innumerable, but want of love is always the real cause; otherwise they would still hold the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." Whatever the General Conference decides First UMC will stand for full inclusion for all people. That is non-negotiable. We warmly welcome and accept everyone, including our LGBTQ brothers and sisters who have been hurt and marginalized by the church for far too long. I am praying that we do not have a church split later this month. But if we do, our church will continue to stand on the side of justice and love for all people.

Melanie

Dr. Melanie Rosa, Lead Pastor

Committee of the Month: Finance

The Committee on Finance is charged with nurturing the long term financial vitality of the congregation by promoting missional budgeting, financial transparency, best practices, and accountability. The members of this committee compile an annual budget, administer funds received by the church, establish internal controls, provide for annual audits, and report to Church Council. They also support the Stewardship and Generosity Committee in its job of planning for the annual finance campaign and growing generous disciples of Jesus Christ. Those serving in this capacity are expected to be Christian leaders of high moral character, actively involved in the life of the congregation, and supportive of the mission of the church.



Members for 2019:

Charles Revier (Chair), Brian Grauberger (Vice Chair), Dana Sampson (Trustees), Deb Kohler (Church Council), Matt Putman (SPRC), Joan Richard (Stewardship), Kate Norton (Lay Leader), Eric Wilkinson, Jim Kutrubes, Jerry Koop, Melanie Rosa (Clergy), Scott Schroeder (Staff), Catherine Pawlikowski (Staff).

FUMC Co-Op Preschool Employment Opportunities

First United Methodist Co-op Preschool is beginning the Director hiring process to replace retiring Director Laura Lechtenberg. We are currently accepting resumes. It is recommended that the Director have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education, child development, elementary education or in a closely related subject field.

The Director must meet Director qualifications and hold a Directors license, as required by the Colorado Department of Human Services. A minimum of 3 years of experience as a teacher or director with preschool education is preferred. It is recommended that the Director have knowledge of parent cooperative preschools, current educational theories and leadership experience. The Director should also be able to manage both people and resources efficiently and graciously. The Director is expected to be present during school operational hours, this is a part time position an average of 30 hours a week during the school year.



Please send resumes to FUMC Coop Preschool 1005 Stover Street, attention Laura Lechtenberg or email lauralechtenberg@fcfumc.net. Phone contact 482-0343. Please submit resumes by February 28, 2019.

First United Methodist Co-op Preschool is hiring a Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant. It is recommended that the person selected for this position have basic accounting skills and good organizational skills. Familiarity with QuickBooksPro, spreadsheets and word processing is required. It is recommended that the person selected for this position have be competent in word, excel, access, power point, publisher, website navigation. skills. This is a part time position. Please submit resumes by February 28, 2019.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter



Would you like to rekindle romance, restore communication and renew commitment in your marriage? Why not treat yourselves to a special opportunity to escape from your busy everyday lives, rediscover the one you love, and put God at the center of your marriage with a United Methodist-sponsored Marriage Encounter Weekend, where you'll have plenty of private time to refocus on each other? **February 15-17, 2019 at the beautiful Hideaway Inn & Conference Center in the Black Forest north of Colorado Springs. Open to all faith expressions and those with no church affiliation.** For more information or to register: www.encounter.org or toll free: 866-633-3862.

A Greeting from our District Superintendent

Dear People of God at First UMC Fort Collins,

Greetings from Bishop Karen Oliveto and the Mountain Sky Cabinet. We wish you all many blessings as you serve together in Christian love during your 150th year!



I want to celebrate with you and thank God for what you are doing together in your community and beyond. It is indeed beautiful and heartening when God's people work together in unity. For 150 years, you have been a leader church in your area, and I am glad that you continue to strive to do so under the visionary leadership of Rev. Melanie Rosa, Rev. Cynthia Paquette and a host of dedicated leaders, both lay and staff. Nothing excites us more than seeing vitality and effectiveness in the life and witness of our local churches in fostering the work of God and the mission of our Church – making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Please know that we are thankful to God for your vital witness and remember you in our prayers. May you continue to be the church that God has called you to be - bringing healing, love, hope, justice and peace!

Tezenlo Thong, District Superintendent

Peaks/Pikes Peak District

Quarterly Events to Celebrate 150 Years

Sunday, January 27, 2019 Homecoming Sunday

Dr. Charles Shuster preaching-- 9:30 and 11:00 services

Sermon: "Which Way Does the Carillon Lean?"

Light Brunch in Fellowship Hall—9:00 to 11:00, with Stover Street Stompers

NO 8:00 AM SERVICE

5:00 p.m. Modern Service - Dr. Melanie Rosa preaching

Sunday, May, 19, 2019 Mission Fair

Fellowship Hall--9 am-12 noon

Featuring the many missions our church supports

Sunday, August 25, 2019---Old-Fashioned Church Picnic

Outdoor games, activities, music and storyteller

Rev. David Dalke--4-7 pm

Saturday, October 19, 2019—Gift to our Community

Church Day of Service--Eastside Park, 100 Locust Street,
near Laurel Elementary School

Sunday, October 20, 2019 150th Anniversary Gala

Celebration and Gala in Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall

Inspiring program, excellent food, music and celebration of
150 years

(Tickets for this event go on sale July 15, 2019)



The Roots of Methodism in Colorado

- Norma Cowell

In 1858 and 1859, the discovery of gold drew thousands of people to Colorado. Gold was found in paying quantities close to Denver and Central City. Coming West were not only lawless adventurers, but also many people from Christian homes. Among the gold seekers were a few lay preachers, who were not official representatives of their denomination. One of these was George Fisher, a lay Methodist preacher, a carpenter and a wagon maker. General Larimer, recently arrived, arranged for Fisher to hold a service in a two room cabin owned by local gamblers.

The first religious work, authorized by a denomination, occurred in the Denver area and Central City by Dr. William Goode and Reverend Jacob Adriance, sent here by the Kansas-Nebraska Conference. Arriving in Denver June 28, 1859, they preached morning and afternoon in the unfinished Pollock Hotel. After preaching on July 4th, they left for the mountains where they held services in the vicinity of the current United Methodist Church in Central City. The next day Dr. Goode and Reverend Adriance convened a quarterly conference and organized the Methodist Church in Central City. This was the first official church of any denomination in the Gold Rush region. George Fisher, the lay minister, was left in charge.

Next, they went to Golden, Colorado where they organized the Methodist Church after a service conducted in a gambling tent. Returning to Denver on August 2, 1859, they founded the Denver and Auraria City Mission, now known as Trinity United Methodist Church.

Dr. Goode, who was a much older man, then returned to his home in Iowa. Reverend Adriance, referred to by many as the "Father of Methodism in Colorado" remained. Fifty years later on June 28, 1909, Reverend Adriance, then a tottering old man, was brought to Denver from his home in Nebraska to preach the same sermon for the second time.

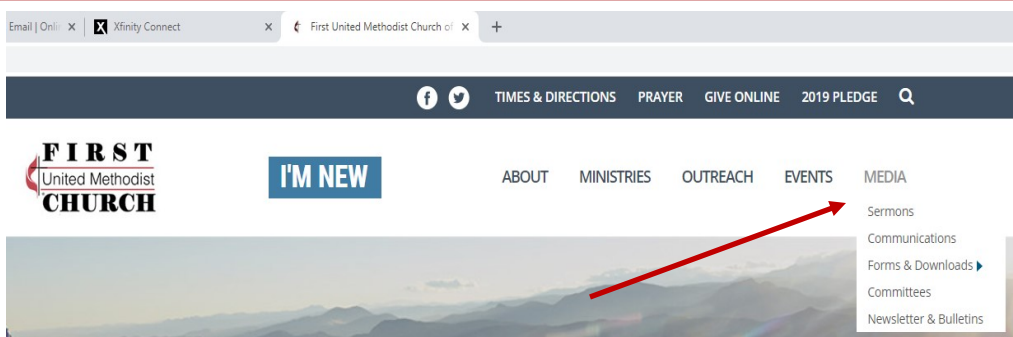


Moving Forward in Faith in our 150th Year

Please pick up your History Booklet in the church office to learn more about the impressive history of this congregation.

This year we will partner with the City of Fort Collins to upgrade Eastside Park in our neighborhood. We are fully committed to continue to make a positive difference in our shared community as we prepare for the next 150 years.

SERMONS ONLINE



Our Advent and Christmas sermons are now on the church website at www.fcfumc.net Click MEDIA in the right hand corner, then SERMONS to listen online or download to your computer.

FIRST YOUTH NEWS



Make an investment in our future...Look for *Youth Stock* for sale all month long on the Youth Bulletin Board in the main hallway. All proceeds go to support the Youth Mission Trip to Alaska!!!



**CHECK US OUT ON INSTAGRAM
@FIRSTYOUTHFC**

United Methodist Women

The February 14th meeting for United Methodist Women will have Theresa Holbrook speak about her many trips to Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Theresa made her first trip to Pine Ridge in August, 2009 with Jon Loughlin as a team leader. Since then she has organized and led groups including the recent December trip to share early Christmas with the Lakota.

Pine Ridge Indian Reservation is located in the poorest county in the United States with high unemployment (80%), poverty, corruption, addiction, and a sense of hopelessness by many.



In spite of the problems that exist, the Lakota have many positive attributes: generosity, courage, reverence for God's creation, perseverance and a reemerging sense of pride in their language, crafts, and tribal traditions.

Theresa will share about our church's mission trips to Pine Ridge and what is done there with the people as well as inform us about the many interesting sites on the reservation such as Oglala College, Red Cloud Indian School and Heritage Center, Wounded Knee cemetery, buffalo herds, the Badlands, and more. Our church has contributed in many ways and she will make us aware of how we have helped.

Most importantly, she will be telling us what she sees as their greatest needs and how we can help and learn when we visit.

Please join us for lunch at 11:30 in the parlor followed by this program by Theresa. In the Lakota way of life, Wakan Tanka is the term for the sacred or divine, often translated as "The Great Spirit", and Wakan Tanka Kici Un means "May God Bless." Come to be blessed by good food, good fellowship, and learning more about the Lakota and Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

Double Nickle Luncheon February 8



Come and enjoy some fantastic music with Karen Stoodly, piano, and Keilani McConnell, flute, on a Sentimental Journey of old and new favorite songs.

**Fellowship Hall • 12 noon • \$4 for best luncheon in town
Reservations not needed**

Tax Assistance

Get Ahead Colorado is a program of the Piton Foundation that provides resources to families in Colorado who qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit (up to \$6400 Cash back). Also, if you make \$66,000 or less you can file your taxes free online at MyFreeTaxes.com For more information, visit GetAheadColorado.org or call 211.

Call for Musicians and Tech Volunteers for Modern Service

Despite a mere 4 month existence, the musical worship at our new modern service has already been wonderful and a ton of fun! I can certainly sense God working among us within this service. In order to build upon our solid beginning, we need you, young and old, to join our team of musicians and tech volunteers. The positions we need you to prayerfully consider are listed below, but first, I would like to give you a sense of what serving at the modern service looks like.

Although our default musical expression is modern pop-rock worship music, we incorporate multiple styles of worship music as well as inspirational secular music. For instance, our special Dec. 16 lessons and carols service managed to combine rock, jazz, a cappella choral carols and hymns, pop, adult contemporary and black contemporary gospel. As such, singers and instrumentalists of all types are welcome! If you are interested yet do not see your musical category listed, please still contact me via the info given below.

- Vocalist (solo, improvised harmony, choral)
- Bassist (electric and/or upright)
- Guitarist (lead, rhythm, acoustic, electric, classical, other)
- Pianist/Keyboardist
- Orchestral (Strings, Woodwind, Brass, Percussion)
- Folk (banjo, ukulele, accordion, dulcimer, fiddle, etc.)



For our tech positions we need:

- Sound engineers (basic familiarity with a mixer board as well as an iPad or tablet is helpful)
- Services slides and media (a very easy, yet highly important task) Clicking slides on a MacBook computer mouse

Please prayerfully consider these positions. If you feel God calling you to serve, simply send me an email expressing your interest at jnoelliste@gmail.com.

In Christ,
Joseph Noelliste

Anti-Bullying Workshops Hosted at FUMC



First Church has hosted several anti-bullying workshops over the past year. Although not a direct ministry of our church, JoAnn Hopkins, who is a member of our church community, is very active with the anti-bullying movement and helps lead these day long workshops. Below is a very brief excerpt of a reflection paper written by one of the participants following a workshop. Many thanks to JoAnn for taking a leadership role in this important issue.

What is your “personal” vision statement and what action steps do you plan to take during second semester to realize your vision?

“My personal vision statement is: I will use my confidence, communication skills, and compassion to develop, create, and go forth to work for world peace. I plan to be a listening ear and helping hand when others are in need. I also plan to be a neutral force in high school drama, and help solve the problem instead of further antagonizing it.”



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**WE REMEMBER WITH
SYMPATHY THE FAMILIES OF ...**

Richard Jansen - 12/23
Bobbie Carmody - 12/24

WE CELEBRATE THE BAPTISM OF

Bryce Colin Duroux - January 20.



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